

REMARKS**Group Election**

According to the Office Action, the application contains three distinct embodiments of the claimed of invention comprising the following:

- I. Claims 1-11, drawn to a camshaft assembly, classified in class 74, subclass 595.
- II. Claims 12-25, drawn to a method of producing a camshaft, classified in class 29, subclass 8881.1.
- III. Claims 26-36 , drawn to an apparatus for producing lateral indentations in a camshaft, classified in class 29, subclass 6.01

In response, Applicants elect Group I corresponding to claims 1-11 for prosecution with ***traverse***.

The Applicants note that the Examiner recognizes that Inventions I and II are related as process of making and product made. In addition, however, the Examiner asserts that the inventions are distinct in that either (1) the process claimed can be used to make a materially different product or (2) the product claimed can be made by a materially different process. The Applicants traverse this assertion and seeks reconsideration.

Process to make a materially different product.

The method of claims 12-25 claims a method for making a camshaft. The Examiner's assertion that it could be utilized to make a materially different product such as a pipe coupling is inaccurate. The limitations of the method claim specifically require securing CAMS onto a tubular SHAFT. There is only a single product that results from cams mounted on a shaft – namely a camshaft as is claimed in claims 1-11. Furthermore, the method of claim 12 specifically recites the limitation of hot-forming a lateral indentation on the shaft between two cams. Thus the method of claim 12 cannot be utilized to form anything other than a camshaft with hot-formed lateral indentations. Otherwise the limitations within claims 12-25 would be meaningless. Claims 1-11 specifically claims a camshaft with hot-formed lateral indentations. Clearly, Claims 12-

25 cannot be utilized to form a materially different product if any of the limitations contained therein are recognized. The Applicants request reconsideration.

Product made by a materially different process

Conversely, Claims 1-11 cannot be made by a process materially different than that claimed in claims 12-25. The hot-formed lateral indentations as defined by the specification cannot be formed by a process different than that claimed in claims 12-25. Casting or molding do not comprise hot-formed lateral indentations as defined by the specification. In addition, casting or molding would not result in the multiple part assembly with force-locking connections between the cams and shaft as taught by the present invention. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Species Election

The Examiner further requires an election of patentably distinct species which were identified as follows:

- i. Figures 1a-1c
- ii. Figures 2a-2b
- iii. Figures 3a-3b
- iv. Figures 4a-4b
- v. Figures 5a-5d
- vi. Figures 6a-6b

The Applicants call the Examiner's attention to that fact that Figure 1 shows a camshaft assembly with eight cams that is illustrated in Figures 2, 3, 4 and 6a. As the elected group was claims 1-11 regarding a cam-shaft, and Figures 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 illustrate embodiments of an apparatus for making lateral indentations, there are no different species to be identified. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and selects species (i) with traverse for the aforementioned reasons.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to for clarity reasons. Substitute drawings are provided with this response.

Information Disclosure Statement

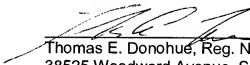
The Information Disclosure Statement was objected to for failure to comply with English translation requirements and for failure to provide concise explanations of references provided without translation. The Applicants have respectfully addressed these issues as attachments to the present office action.

Applicants reserve the right to add the non-elected claims upon the allowance of a generic claim containing the same general inventive concept as the non-elected claims.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney at (248) 433-7221 if any unresolved matters remain with respect to this Response. A Petition for Extension of Time (one month) accompanies this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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